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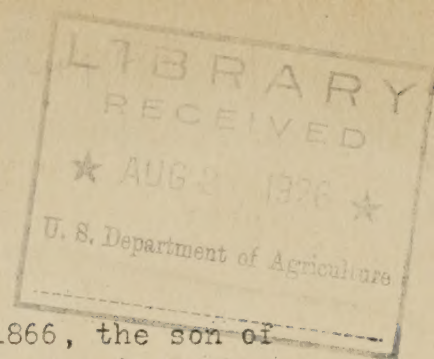




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HENRY CANTWELL WALLACE.

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Henry C. Wallace was born in Rock Island, Ill., in 1866, the son of a United Presbyterian minister who served two congregations, one in Rock Island and the other across the Mississippi River in Davenport. His father, Henry Wallace, a Scotch Irishman, was the eldest son of John Wallace, who came to the United States from the north of Ireland in about 1830. For as far back as they have any record the Wallaces were farmers, but as is the case with many Scotch Presbyterians, it was usually hoped that at least one son should be a minister.

After a few years in the ministry threatened tuberculosis made it necessary for Henry Wallace to abandon that field and take to the open air. He had accumulated through his father's estate a considerable amount of wild land in western Iowa, and upon giving up the ministry he devoted himself to improving this land. Henry C. Wallace, the present Secretary of Agriculture, in this way got practical farm experience while a boy. He spent most of his summers on the farm and his winters in a small town attending school and, incidentally, learning the printing trade. At the age of nineteen he entered the Iowa State Agricultural College at Ames. A few weeks before the time to return for his junior year a tenant on one of the farms gave up his lease on short notice, and to meet this emergency young Wallace went to the farm instead of back to the college. He had planned to stay only long enough to find another tenant, but became so interested in the work that he remained there for five years. In the fall of 1887 he was married to May Brodhead, a descendant of one of the earlier families of the United States, her forefathers having come to New York about 1650. On one side she is of French descent. Two children were born to them while living on the farm.

During the life on the farm Mr. Wallace wrote on agricultural subjects for some of the farm papers of that time. These communications attracted the attention of Dean Henry, Director of the Wisconsin Experiment Station, and led to some correspondence between them. On Dean Henry's earnest advice Wallace returned to college in the spring of 1892. Having a family to support and having limited means, there was little time to be lost in his college work. He completed the junior and senior years in the one year, and a few months after his graduation was appointed Assistant Professor of Agriculture, in charge of dairying.

The head of the agricultural work at Ames at that time was James Wilson, who in 1897 became Secretary of Agriculture and continued in that position for sixteen years, the record for continuous service in the cabinet of the United States.

In the spring of 1895 Henry C. Wallace and his younger brother, John P. Wallace, joined in founding an agricultural paper known as Wallaces' Farmer and Dairyman, which name was later shortened to Wallaces' Farmer. The three continued that publication until the death of the elder Henry Wallace in February, 1916. Since that time it has been continued by the two sons, with





the additional help of three sons of Henry C. The eldest son, Henry A., succeeded his father as editor when the former became Secretary of Agriculture. It is published weekly, and has given more attention to agricultural economics than any other agricultural paper in the country.

In addition to his activities on the paper Henry C. Wallace has been identified with various organizations of farmers and stock men. He was for sixteen years secretary of the Corn Belt Meat Producers Association. This association is composed of the larger stock feeders in Iowa. Under his leadership it has throughout its life endeavored to secure better freight rates and better shipping conditions for the stock men of Iowa.

Until the present time none of the members of the Wallace family have held political office, nor have they sought it. Their interest in politics has been confined to the advocacy of such legislation as would promote farm interests. They took an active part in securing a larger control by government, State and national, of railroads and other public service corporations.

The Wallace family consists of six children, three sons and three daughters. The eldest son, Henry A., is now editor of Wallace's Farmer. John B. is connected with the paper in the advertising department. The third son, James W., was connected with the general business department for several years but recently left to enter another branch of business. Of the three daughters, the eldest is married, the wife of Major Angus McLay of Detroit, Michigan. The second daughter, Mary graduated from Vassar college in June, 1920, while the third daughter, Ruth, graduated from Goucher College, Baltimore, Md., in June, 1923. Both of the younger girls are with their parents in Washington.

Henry C. Wallace is a member of the United Presbyterian Church, has been active in the work of the Young Mens' Christian Association for years, being a member of the International Committee and chairman of the State Committee of Iowa. He holds the degree of B.S.A. from Iowa State College, Ames, 1892., LL.D., 1922; D. Agr. University of Maryland, 1921. He is a Mason, and belongs to several clubs both business and social.



